

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the specification is objected to.

Also, the claims are objected to as well.

At the same time, the Examiner indicated that the application was in allowable condition.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the claims has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with the Examiner's formal objections to the specification, applicants have amended the specification to bring it in compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Patent Practice as required by the Examiner.

A new abstract of the disclosure has been submitted herewith as well.

After carefully considering the Examiner's grounds for the rejection of the claims, applicants have amended claims 1, 6 and 14 to eliminate alternatives in these claims and to comply with the requirements of antecedent basis for claim 14.

Applicants have also submitted claims 15, 16 and 17 which define the alternative embodiments removed from claims 1, 6 and 14.

It is therefore believed that the Examiner's grounds for the formal objections to the claims are eliminated as well.

As for the Examiner's objection to the multiple dependency of claims 4, 6-14 it is respectfully submitted that simultaneously with filing of the above identified application, a Simultaneous Amendment was filed, a copy of which is enclosed, together with a copy of the receipt postcard. This Simultaneous Amendment removed the previously existing multiple dependency, and therefore these claims should have been considered.

In view of the above presented remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be considered as allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27233

Docket # 1938

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF:
NEW PCT APPLICATION

10/030833

SCHMITT

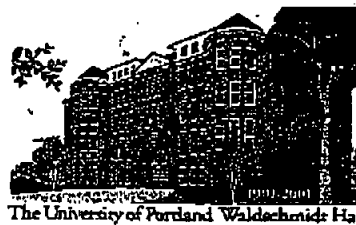
Transmittal Form, Unexecuted Declaration,
Verified English Translation, 7 Sheets of
Drawings, Simultaneous Amendment, Foreign
Application, IDS, Form 1449.

Fee: \$890.00

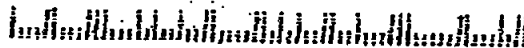
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Group: Attorney Docket # 19389

Applicant(s) : SCMITT, P., ET AL

Serial No. :

Filed :

For : SENSOR FOR OPTICAL DETECTION OF FOREIGN
BODIES, IN PARTICULAR RAINDROPS, ON A
WINDOW

SIMULTANEOUS AMENDMENT

January 10, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R S:

Simultaneously with filing of the above identified application
please amend the same as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel all claims without prejudice.

Substitute the claims attached hereto.


REMARKS:

This Amendment is submitted simultaneously with filing of the above identified application.

With the present Amendment applicant has amended the claims so as to eliminate their multiple dependency.

Consideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 27233

Claims

1. A sensor (10) for optical detection of foreign bodies, in particular raindrops, on a window, in particular on the windshield of a motor vehicle, having a sensor element (21) that can be coupled to the inside of the window, having at least one fastening device (16) to be fastened, preferably glued, to the window, and having a housing part (12) that contains at least the sensor element (21), where the sensor element (21) can be coupled to the window (18) by means of spring force, characterized in that the housing part (12) has at least one fastening part (14) attached to it, which can be brought into engagement with the fastening device (16) by means of clamping tension.

2. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the sensor element (21) is affixed to the housing part (12).

3. The sensor according to one of claims 1 [or 2], characterized in that two fastening parts (14) are disposed opposite each other on the housing part (12).

4. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening device (16) has pins (20) for engaging with the at least one fastening part (14).

5. The sensor according to claim 4, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) has recesses (29) for receiving the pins (20) in the installed position.

6. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is attached to the housing part (12) in a movable, preferably pivotable, fashion and has elastic properties.

7. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) can be brought into engagement with the at least one fastening device (16) by means of an oblique plane (28).

8. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) has an oblong formation (24) on its exterior.

9. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is a stamped and bent part.

10. The sensor according to [one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is an injection molded plastic part.

11. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the fastening device (16) is embodied as being of one piece.

12. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the housing part (12) can be inserted in a collar-like fashion into the fastening device (16).

13. The sensor according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the sensor element (21) is fastened in the housing part (12) by being clipped into it.

14. A sensor (10) for optical detection of foreign bodies, in particular raindrops, on a window, in particular on the windshield of a motor vehicle, having a sensor element (21) that can be coupled to the inside of the window, having at least one fastening device (16) to be fastened, preferably glued, to the window, and having a housing part (12) that contains at least the sensor element (21), where the sensor element (21) can be coupled to the window (18) by means of spring force, characterized by means of a design that is comprised of at least 3 components, in particular an optical body with a coupling medium, a plate with at least one transmitter and receiver, and a housing part (12) with the fastening parts (14).

Claims

1. A sensor (10) for optical detection of foreign bodies, in particular raindrops, on a window, in particular on the windshield of a motor vehicle, having a sensor element (21) that can be coupled to the inside of the window, having at least one fastening device (16) to be fastened, preferably glued, to the window, and having a housing part (12) that contains at least the sensor element (21), where the sensor element (21) can be coupled to the window (18) by means of spring force, characterized in that the housing part (12) has at least one fastening part (14) attached to it, which can be brought into engagement with the fastening device (16) by means of clamping tension.

2. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the sensor element (21) is affixed to the housing part (12).

3. The sensor according to one of claims 1, characterized in that two fastening parts (14) are disposed opposite each other on the housing part (12).

4. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening device (16) has pins (20) for engaging with the at least one fastening part (14).

5. The sensor according to claim 4, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) has recesses (29) for receiving the pins (20) in the installed position.

6. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is attached to the housing part (12) in a movable, preferably pivotable, fashion and has elastic properties.

7. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) can be brought into engagement with the at least one fastening device (16) by means of an oblique plane (28).

8. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) has an oblong formation (24) on its exterior.

9. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is a stamped and bent part.

10. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one fastening part (14) is an injection molded plastic part.

11. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the fastening device (16) is embodied as being of one piece.

12. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the housing part (12) can be inserted in a collar-like fashion into the fastening device (16).

13. The sensor according to claim 1, characterized in that the sensor element (21) is fastened in the housing part (12) by being clipped into it.

14. A sensor (10) for optical detection of foreign bodies, in particular raindrops, on a window, in particular on the windshield of a motor vehicle, having a sensor element (21) that can be coupled to the inside of the window, having at least one fastening device (16) to be fastened, preferably glued, to the window, and having a housing part (12) that contains at least the sensor element (21), where the sensor element (21) can be coupled to the window (18) by means of spring force, characterized by means of a design that is comprised of at least 3 components, in particular an optical body with a coupling medium, a plate with at least one transmitter and receiver, and a housing part (12) with the fastening parts (14).